ABSTRACT

Embodiments include a process and composition for improved capacity retention of a lithium-ion battery. Embodiments include a surface/chemical modification of electrode materials. In certain embodiments the LiMn₂O₄ spinel oxide is modified with Li_xCoO₂, Li_xNi_{0.5}Co_{0.5}O₂, Al₂O₃, Cr₂O₃, MgO, MgAl₂O₄ or combinations thereof using a chemical processing procedure followed by heat treatment. The surface/chemically modified LiMn₂O₄ show an improved capacity retention at room temperature and at elevated temperatures. In certain embodiments, Li_xNi_{0.5}Co_{0.5}O₂-modified LiMn₂O₄ demonstrates improved capacity retention. In other embodiments, Al₂O₃-modified LiMn₂O₄ demonstrates a higher capacity under certain conditions. In other embodiments the Li_{0.75}CoO₂-modified LiMn₂O₄ demonstrates a combination of improved capacity value and retention. In another embodiment the LiCoO₂ layered oxide is modified with Al₂O₃ or Li_{1.05}Mn_{1.9}Ni_{0.05}O₄ using a chemical processing procedure followed by heat treatment. The surface/chemically modified LiCoO₂ shows much higher capacity of approximately 190 mAh/g in the range of 4.5 to 3.2 V with good capacity retention.